

1896

gross complete

Section	G. M.
File No.	70-1896
No.	1-7.

Priestship of the Badarinath
Vishnu Temple.

Indexed
CL



File No 70

G. M. Ramanagar fort
Benares
No. 20-96
S. No. 1
September, 7th, 1896

My dear Sir,

your Excellency is,

I hope, fully aware that there is a very famous temple of Vishnu in the Himalayan regions named Sri Badrinath temple. Here the chief priest is a Brahmin of Ramburi class. These Ramburis have originally come from Malabar and the popular saying is that they were imported there by Swami Shankaracharya. J.

This chief priest is called Rawar
and is an old, emaciated and infirm
~~man~~ ^{wholly} ~~As he is~~ unable to perform the
duties of his post ~~and consequently~~ the
affairs of the temple have fallen into
disorder and the worship culpably
neglected. The temple is under the
protection of the North Western Province's
Government, and our Lieutenant
Governor has to make arrangements
for the Rawal ship (chief priestship).

The popular saying is that no one
but a Brahmin of the hamburi class
can be appointed to the post, where as
no hamburi is available at the place.

The government now wishes to appoint

a Brahmin from amongst those who may be found in the part of the country whether he be a Namburi or not. But before doing so they wanted to know the opinion of learned Brahmins and influential Hindus at Benares, Mittra and other sacred places. The Pandits (learned Brahmins) have expressed their opinion in a written form and come to the conclusion that it is not ^{at} all necessary that the priest of a temple should be a particular class of Brahmins. But the Baidri Nath public assert vehemently that Swami Shankaracharya in making the management of the temple had laid down the rule that no Brahmin but a Namburi should worship there.

The Government have asked His Highness the Maharaja of Benares to assist

them in coming to a final conclusion.

As the chief seat (Gaddi) of Sri
Swami Shankaracharya Ji is
Sringeri Math (which is situate in

the dominion of H. H. The Maharaja of

Mysore) Our Maharaja thinks that

^{His Holiness} the Jagadguru Sri Swami Shankaracharya
(the present Swami, I mean) ~~with~~ is
the chief authority to solve this problem.

I am therefore desired by H. H. The
Maharaja to ask your Excellency to
kindly assist him in this matter, and
try to obtain the wishes of the Jagadguru
in this question. The point which
is required to be decided is whether

The Swami Shankaracharya has laid down
any rule regarding the worship of
the Badri Math Temple or not. And
if ~~he~~ has laid down any rule then

breast of the nation is telling
very powerfully on the cultivation
and the health of the people.

Dear Mrs. Estlin,
Very truly,
Wm. Stebbins, Acting
Captain. Aide-de-Camp
& Private Secretary to
A. A. M. Johnson, Major

Harris

P.S.
Just happened across me to
say that the Minutes of the whole
Hudson Committee will be published.
If you desire this, let them.



a Brotherman other than the
Randoms may work it there
or not. In case there is no
distinct order of the Randoms
on the subject, the opinion
of Sir J. G. Adams (the present
~~author~~ author of the Randoms
Shakespeare's 'I am stronger
man') will be thought conclusive
and any opinion which the
Randoms ^{desire to} express on the subject
will be binding. The point to
which the attention of the Hall
now should be drawn is whether

a Brahmin of good birth, of good
moral character, and sound
learning may be appointed to
the priesthood in spite of his
being a non-hamawi or it is
essential that a hamawi
should be appointed at ~~any~~ ^{any}
cost and irrespective of his
multiplications. — His position
once settled by His Holiness the
Jagadguru, will be settled ~~once~~ ^{once}
for all. The Mahaswami hopes

that in the interest of the public ^{Hindus}
I will give the matter more than
consideration and favour us
with the views of the Jagadguru
at an earlier date —
The worship of the temple is falling
into serious neglect & the sooner
this position is settled the better
we ^{believe} Mahaswami ~~thinks~~ ^{thinks} that
we will excuse him for the
trouble and hopes that this
will find you in the enjoyment of
good health.

The climate of the East of the
Country is very hot and a long

Class. **DP** INDIAN TELEGRAPH. Monthly Local No. **10**
 To **Mysore** From **Bucanoe**
 Station Station

Words. Day. Hour. Minute. OFFICIAL INSTRUCTION
29 11 14 0 2 PM

To (Person) **Swam of Mysore** From (Person) **Swam of Travancore**
 your telegram No. **10** candidate
 yet come forward
 here for ~~place~~ had
 place had ~~admirable~~
 priest. Resident ~~replied~~
 to ~~an~~ accordingly
 further inquiries
 being made.

MYSORE 17-10-96

RECD. FROM			SENT TO		
At	Hrs.	Mts. By	At	Hrs.	Mts. By

Date Postmaster

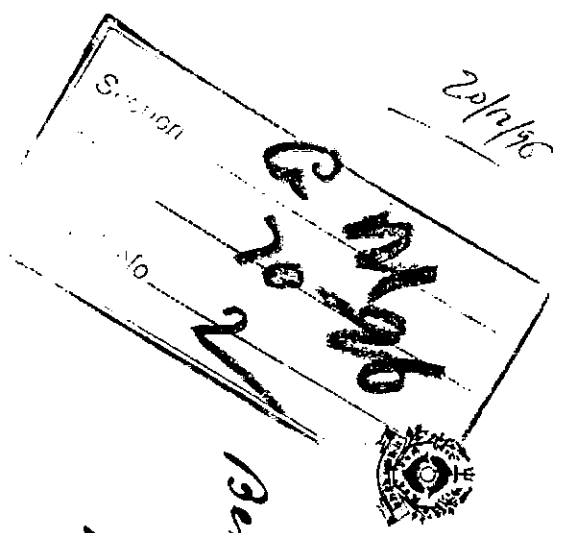
RATES OF CHARGE FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS.

*The address (including name of Sender, and name and residence of Addressee)
is transmitted free.*

	First 8 words.	Each additional word.	
Deferred Message	... 8 Annas	... 1 Anna.	A group of 3, or less figures, is reckoned as one word.
Ordinary "	... 1 Rupee	... 2 Annas.	
Urgent "	... 2 Rupees	... 4 Annas.	

No charge for delivery within a distance of 5 Miles.

for your kindness & ask you spare it
 kindly order your prices to remain in
 in doing the job in a few weeks
 better, but owing to an extra-ordinary
 from the British Academy to the 23
 December 21 & Thomas has obliged to
 come to New York from London,
 & could not come to Washington. His
 health seems no better. — There is
 still too many things in connection with
 my land things (with the Antiquities)
 please to give you a special handle
 & hope you will excuse me for this
 I shall be glad to answer to the letters
 which I have from our publisher with
 the edition of the English & the French
 No 2. Hope you will order the
 plates connected to know the
 names of the land — the 1848



Received & managed
 The post
 14th. Dec. 1896

My dear Sir,

I am glad to inform
 you that I received some days from
 my land in Washington and Cogan
 and they to Thomas you more money
 for the great help which was given me
 by you & Justice William Charles for which
 facilities much my family. I have
 tried to visit Washington in my way
 home and thank you all heartily

I might be able to present it to our husband.

Further I beg to remind you specially that I
had left the Hudson's Bay Company file with you
which you said you will send me at the end of the
but I haven't received the file yet.

Please send me the file here with your opinion
on the holding. The file & the opinion
are urgently needed.

I am sorry I was unable to get a single
Hudson's Bayman to accept the prob of the
1. Property of the Company

Very truly
Yours

I am sorry

Vandermere, Providence

Capt. Aid-de-Camp

~~with the Archivist of the~~

21.
- Any other letter which he will your Excellency address
the same order you say to send to me.

Class

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Monthly Local No.

505

To
Station

Post.

Words.

Day.

Hour.

Minute.

83

21

12

50

To (Person)

The Asst Secretary
to H. E. Sir Sheshadri
Syer K. C. S. I. Prime
Minister of Mysore

4

5

Please send me immedi-
ately badrinath temple
file ~~with~~ which I left
with his excellency also
send the opinions of his excellency

14

RECD. FROM

L. N.

At

Hrs.

Mts. By



Hrs.

Mts. By

Date

Postmaster.

RATES OF CHARGE FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS.

*The address (including name of Sender, and name and residence of Addressee)
is transmitted free.*

	First 8 words.	Each additional word.	
Deferred Message	... 8 Annas	... 1 Anna.	A group of 3, or less figures, is reckoned as one word.
Ordinary "	... 1 Rupee	... 2 Annas.	
Urgent "	... 2 Rupees	... 4 Annas.	

No charge for delivery within a distance of 5 Miles.

Class.

INDIAN TELEGRAPH.

Monthly Local No.

To

From

Station

Station

Words.

Day.

Hour.

Minute.

OFFICIAL INSTRUCTION.

To (Person)

From (Person)

1
 2 about numburi brahmin
 3 employment with the views
 4 of his business for a long time
 5 No numburi willing to go
 6 I tried my best in vain
 7 worship of god suffering
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RECD. FROM

L. N.

SENT TO

L. N.

At

Hrs.

Mts. By

At

Hrs.

Mts. By

Date

Postmaster.

RATES OF CHARGE FOR INLAND TELEGRAMS.

The address (including name of Sender, and name and residence of Addressee) is transmitted free.

	First 8 words.	Each additional word.	
Deferred Message	... 8 Annas	... 1 Anna.	A group of 5, or less figures, is reckoned as one word.
Ordinary "	... 1 Rupee	... 2 Annas.	
Urgent "	... 2 Rupees	... 4 Annas.	

No charge for delivery within a distance of 5 Miles.

Rho
ord

Sending today file, opinions
and reply to Maharaja —

28/12/96
W.L.

ordy

To Wm. W. W. W.
Capt. Vindkerwan Proudridge
A.D.C. 6 H. H. W. W.
Wm. W. W.

From St Thomas Church
Toby & Steven Wynn

" Temple file and reply to making sent
only today & opinions will follow " —
Wm.

1/1/97.
Wm.

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Bangalore

28th December 1896.

My dear friend,

You will no doubt
excuse my writing to you
on a subject on which I
feel strongly and which
concerns the credit of your
State. The highest honor of
Travancore, is having pro-
duced the great Sankar
Charya and I believe it is
the first duty of your
State to cherish his blessed
memory. There is no holier
place in India than

Bhadri, the great Ashrama
of Narad & Naraina. Its
sanctity was an article of
the devoutest faith on the
part of the Rishis of the
past Yugas. It is the
very cradle of all that is
noble and spiritual in
our literature. Its fame
was widely known long before
Benares and other modern
holy places were even heard
of. It was at this holy
place that the great
Sankaracharya (made Japas
and) attained self knowledge.
It was there he recovered the

lost Narayana image by
dipping into the river for it
and duly established the
image in a temple dedi-
cated to the eternal Na-
rayana and arranged for
the worship by a Namboori
Brahmin. The arrange-
ment has been continued
up to the present day -
through the many cen-
turies which have passed
away since Sankara-
charya's days - and yet
strange to say (the patri-
otic Hindu Mahasaya of
Travancore is) ^{we are} ~~is~~ ^{able} in the
present day - with all
our boasted civilization and
facilities of communication -

To find a Namburi Brah-
min to take up the priest-
-ship of the Bhadri temple.
Can this be possible if
His Highness knows that
he is the entitled possessor of
the unique honor of being
the Ruler of the country
which gave birth to Sri
Sankarācharya -

we know from
history how the Christian
monarches of Europe shed
their life blood to save
Jerusalem and its holy
memories from the Moslem -
The materialism of the
present day is a greater
enemy to our religion than
ever Islam was to

Christianity. The apathy
 born of such materialism
 is ruining all that is
 high and noble in our
 Institutions. I feel sure
 that it has only to be
 brought to His Highness's
 notice that Bhadri wants
 a Namhuri Brahmin to
 continue the institution
 founded by Sankarāchārī
 for one to be forthcoming
 at once -

Keep it

(Cannot your lady
 State afford to pay some-
 thing if need be to in-
 duce a Namhuri to take
 up the office) Is it not
 possible to arrange that
 the officiator may go from

Iravancore for a term and
then be succeeded by
another Namburi Brah-
min for another term
and so on under a system
of turns? If your Stat
can do this, it will earn
the everlasting gratitude
of India and will have
the satisfaction of having
done its duty to the me-
mory of Sankaracharya
whose greatness though
dim and forgotten in the
country of his birth is
beginning now to dawn
upon the most advanced
nations of the earth.

I should be personally

Very grieved to hear that
owing to want of earnest-
ness and appreciation
on the part of your State
a Namhuri Brahmin is
not now appointed in
forgetfulness of what the
great Namhuri Gurm of
India had himself ordained
and established and I know
many will grieve with me.

I have scribbled all
this in a great hurry in the
few minutes left me to
catch the train, for, I am
leaving tonight for Madras
for a short change -

With kindest regards
Ever yours most sincerely,
By K. Sheshadri Iyer

Sankara Subyer Akerfal
Dewan of Travancore.

The Priestship of the
Badrinath Temple -

—

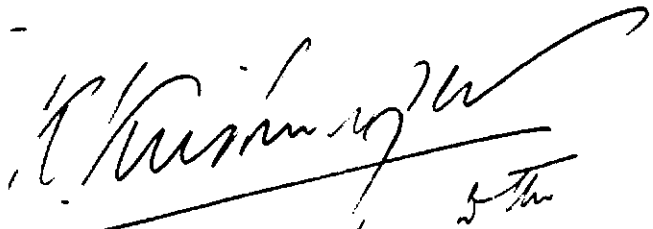
His Holiness Sr.
Sankara Charya of
Sringeri was consult-
ed in the above
matter by desire of
His Highness the
Maharaja of Benares
and His Holiness is
of opinion that
there is no obligation,
arising from any
Sastric or Agamait
ordinance, which
requires that the
Priest of this temple

should be always a
Namburi Brahmin.

His Holiness thinks
any Brahmin if
qualified is eligible
for the priesthood.

The original of
the Governor's opinion
cannot now be for-
warded as all offices
are closed for the
Christmas Holidays,
but will be sent in
a fortnight.

Bangalore }
28th December }
1896.


Private Secretary to the
Governor of Mysore -

The Priestship of the Bad-
rinath Temple.

His Holiness Sri
~~I have at the~~
Sankaradharma of Sringeri
~~instance of His High-~~
was consulted in the
~~-ness the Maharaja~~
above matter by desire of
of Benares consulted
His Highness the Maharaja
~~His Holiness Sankara~~
of Benares and
~~-charya of Sringeri.~~

His Holiness is of
opinion that there
is no obligation,
arising from any
Sastrik or Aya-
~~-maik ordinance,~~
which requires that

the Priest of this
temple should be
always a Namburi
Brahmin. His
Holiness thinks any
Brahmin if qualified,
is eligible for the
priestship -

of the Gurus

The ——— original_n opinion
cannot now be forwarded as
all offices are closed for
the Christmas Holidays,
but will be sent-in a
fortnight -

Bangalore }
28th Dec 98 } K.K.

G. M.
 File No. 20-22
 Serial No. 3

X kept there in 1840
 + ~~stayed~~ the night
 + returned

J

My dear Mayall

I received

return the money
 before - He was safe
 of Thompson's
 you wanted have
 been had for me
 Chapman & the
 in Canada) and
 sent - beneath

No 83 of 1897
IV. IIIA

S. No. *From C.M.*
File No. *70-36*
Ser. No. *6*

Chief Secretary to Govt.
N. W. Provinces & Oudh

To :

Kunwar Aditya Narain
Singh of Benares

Allahabad Dated 13th February 1897

Political
Deptt:

} Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge with thanks, the receipt of your letter dated 28th January last, and of the papers which accompanied it, in connection with the appointment of a Rawal for the temple at Badrinath.

2. It appears to the Lieutenant Governor that sufficient evidence has been produced to show that it is not essential that the Rawal should be a Namdhari Brahman, and His Honor has, therefore, accepted the nomination by you, father, His Highness the Maharaja

Raja of Benares, of Paushti-
Mahadevi Mission for the office
of Naile-Rawal. In these
circumstances it is perhaps un-
necessary to take further mea-
sures. No communication with
the Mysore and Cochin authori-
ties, to secure a Namhuri
Brahman.

3. The Legal Memorandum
to Government will now be
instructed to take the necessary
steps to file a suit in the
Civil Court under Section 539
of the Civil Procedure Code for
settling a scheme for the ma-
nagement of the temple.

4. The opinions of the Benares
Paushti regarding the right
of the priests to the offerings
made to the Gods, promised
in the last paragraph of your
letter, are awaited.

I have &c. &c.

Ed. P. Harrison
Under Secretary
For Chief Secy to the Govt.

That the honorable
 Brahman ^{not} we ^{now} need
 for the Badai roll temple
 so please drop the petition
 now

Alwan has
 seen this - put
 this up with
 Brahman's papers
 with Sir M. J. D.



Be.
 The First
 25/

Yours

Very truly

70-96
 5-26

My dear Sir,

I beg to

Vandashwary Prasad

Sup. A. D. C. to

A. H. The Maharaja's

Benares

herewith the copy of a
 received from the
 Secretary to the H. W. D.
 to the address of
 Kumar Sahib
 From this you will

The destruction of the Baedeker temple

Sri Sathakrishnan a of

- 2) The opinion of His Holiness ~~& the~~
the Sringeri Mutt is given in the Enclosure
Prinuckha - marked A. - ~~This opinion of~~

~~Course may deal with the question of~~

from ~~exclusion~~ from the point of the
Sattria Rules. ~~Not from that of what~~
would be acceptable to the Hindu
population throughout India.

3). I have been ^{largely} ~~in~~ communication

to the States of Travancore & Cochin

The former ^{which} ^{has} the needed information on the subject is

making inquiries I have not yet
replied. The latter ~~also~~ wants

replied. The latter ~~was~~ wants
information, which I beg may be

information, which I beg may be

Ent - Cochin is in touch with

the [^] ~~second~~ most influential

Nambour families & is both

able & wishes to help and

I wd. strongly recommend that

~~Before the question~~ no decision

When arrived at until the state

lies ^{had an} ~~two~~ of them } 7

Inquiries & replies —

Include extracts from my case.

Little Both ~~Wardmore~~ & Coker

————— (marked B & C)

The opinion is derived from the reports
from the Council of the State of
North Carolina of the former
North Carolina and the
General Bank's change - The
~~other three members were previously~~
~~held after the same and~~ π

a (banking and
at T. (in the State St. t.)
which is ^{the same} is a

Numbered 1 of 2 to 6
that T. is π which is
~~the same as the same but~~
~~in Exhibit A~~ and

for different views - At
any rate the General
is based on the S. t.
Company and the same

ಪ್ರಾರ್ಥಿಸ್ತಾ ಮನಃಕೃತಮಾಹ—

[illegible]

[illegible]

श्रीमत्परमहंसपरिव्राजकाचार्यवर्यपदवाक्यप्रमाणपारावार
परीजयमनियमासनप्राणायामप्रसाहारध्यानधारणसमा
ध्यष्टांगयोगानुष्ठाननिष्ठतपश्चक्रवर्जनाथवर्द्धितगुरुपरं
पराशरमिश्रदर्शनस्थापनाचार्यव्याख्यानसिंहासनाधी
श्वरसकलविगभागमसारहृदयसारव्यत्रयप्रतिपादकवैदिक
मार्गप्रवर्तकसर्वतंत्रस्वतंत्रादिराजधानीविद्यानगरमहाराज
धानीकनटिकसिंहासनप्रतिष्ठापनाचार्यश्रीमद्राजाधिराजगु
रुभूमंडलाचार्यश्रीशृंगपुरवराधीश्वरतुंगभद्रातीरवासिश्रीम
द्विधाशंकरपादपञ्चाराध्यकश्रीमान्दृष्टसिंहभारतीस्वामिगुरु
करकमलसंजातश्रीजगद्गुरुश्रीगेरिश्रीसच्चिदानंदशिवाभिन
ववृत्तसिंहभारतीस्वामिभिः ॥

श्रीमत्समस्तसद्गुणभरणभूषितसकलधर्मपरिपालनेकधुरीणारखंडितसाम्राज्य
लक्ष्मीनिवासाधिष्ठानसंपन्नदानश्रीमद्राजस्थारख्यनगराधिपप्रभुवरविषये
श्रीनारायणस्मरणपूर्वकविरचिताशिषस्तमुल्लसन्तुरां (आसेतुहिमाचलप्रसि
ध्यात्रभवह्रीमच्छंकरभगवत्पादपूज्यपीठविषयिणीभक्तिरुनवधिकश्रेयोनिदा
नमिति सार्वजनीनमेतस्यांप्रतं) ॥ आर्षजनप्रचुरे अस्मिन्महतिभारते श्वंटे
सुप्रसिद्धस्य श्रीमच्छंकरभगवत्पादाचार्यप्रतिष्ठापितस्य बदरिकावनवासिनो ना
रायणस्य वरिवसनमेतदवधिके नानेह ह्यनैर्बूर्यन्ववायजनिभिर्द्विजन्मभिरा
ख्ययांचक्रे अस्तिचप्रकृते पिगतवयास्तजातीया एवार्चकस्सचपरमशक्तुपरि
चरेण भगवता उयर्चकान्तरव्यवस्थापनस्यावस्य करणीयत्वे सति पुनरपिनैर्बूर्य
न्ववायवानेव नियोक्तव्य आहोस्विदन्यनियोगोपियुज्यतइति जिज्ञासमानेनपुं
जाबदेशपतिना (-----) अनुयुक्तो भवानास्माकीनमाशय
मेव जिगमिषुर्लेखमलिखदिति म हि सूर महाराजामाशेन विज्ञाप्यामहे अव
गतमेवैतदखिलस्यापि जगतः यदादौ तत्रभवन्त श्रीशंकरभगवत्पादाचार्याः कलि
माहाम्योपवृंहितचार्वकादिदुर्मतनिराचिकीर्षयाशुवनमलंकृतसुदुर्वादिनोभिराकृत

सहस्रप्रपञ्चनेन लोकानुभूतुमनसा च तत्सृष्ट्यपि दिक्षु ईदृशैर्गोदिषु मठानि
मयितेषु च श्रीशारदाप्रभृतिदेवताः प्रतिष्ठाप्य स्वकार्णवसतश्चतुरोपि प्र
मेकमेकशस्त नन्मठ प्रतिष्ठापितदेवतासमाराधनाय तत्तद्देशीय लोकानामद्वै
तमतावबोधने नोत्तरजाय च न्ययोजयंति ति श्रेतस्त्रीश्रीकरविजयमठान्ना
यादिषु बहुधाः प्रपञ्चितं ॥ तत्र तिष्ठापित तस्मिन् प्रवरौ अपिशिष्यप्रशिष्यपरंपरया
तत्तन्मठियदेवतास्स माराध्यमाना शुद्धाद्वैतमतप्रपञ्चनानिष्ठाततामगमन्
एवं च कतिपयधेकाले कचेरतिदुष्टतया श्रीवदरीवनप्रतिष्ठापित मठिय शि
ष्यपरंपरासमुदसीदत् तदासंनिहितेन वूर्यभिजन श्रीमतो नारायणस्यार्च
कतामयादयं च स्वतन्त्रमर्चनाधिकार मन्यो न प्राप्य स्वसजातीयानेव स्वपदे
स्थापितवानिहैतमेव हेतुं तज्जातीयानामर्चनाधिकारप्रापकमुत्पत्त्याम न पुनर्भवा
वत्यादौरेतज्जातीयाः कदाचिदप्यर्चनाधिकारमापिताः । प्रसुतमठान्नायादि
कस्तदभाव एवासीते च ३ इति एव पूजकत्वेनावस्थाप्या इत्ययं नियमोऽनादत्तव
एव तथाच प्रकृते पंचद्राविरेषु पंचगौडेषु वा अन्यतमस्सद्गोत्रियो विशेष
तस्त्रीमण्डिकराचार्यप्रतिष्ठापितशुद्धाद्वैतमताबुयार्थी साहिकाहारवान् विज्ञ
न्माभगवत्पर्यायं अनंतरायाय पूजकत्वेन निर्देष्टव्य इत्येवास्माकमभिमततमं -
श्रीभगवत्प्रादप्रतिष्ठापिततत्पीठशिष्यपरंपरासादादेव दूतमनसोऽस्मान्नु प्रसि
ध्यस्यास्य भगवतो वरिवस्यालोपापन्ति श्रवणमतीव विषादयति तमां अस्मिंश्चा
र्थे स्वयमागत्य भगवतो वरिवश्यादिकं यथावन्निर्णीय तन्नमठे पुनश्शिष्यपरंप
रासपि प्रतिष्ठापयितुमीहामहे । अपिदेवास्यास्यातिदवीयस्तथा कायंतिर
व्यासके श्यास्मदागमनस्य प्रकृतेऽनवकाश इति प्रभुवरेण्य एव अस्मिन्ने
न श्रीवदरीनारायणस्य सुखकल्याणं पूजामस्मदागमनावधि निष्प्रहृत्तमार
चय्याप्यतीथिक कल्याणपरंपरायाः यथास्सुकृतस्य च भाजनं भूत्वा भगवत्स
पर्या निरंतरायतामादनावेदनेनामैदानीं दुर्बलितस्वान्मानस्मानतनोवर्तते
चिरेणेति स्वतः प्रज्ञाप्रकर्षवति प्रभुवरेण्ये अत्र मतिश्रयितेन ---
दुर्मुखिनामसेवसर भाद्रपदशुक्ल १५ ईदुवासर

Code
Class.

INDIAN



TELEGRAPHS.

Monthly
Number.

11/4

To
(Office)

St. Thomas Mt MS

From
(Office)

Benares City

Words.
104Day.
18Hour.
11Minute.
38Official
Instructions.

Sd/- R Pondey

To
(Person)

Private Secy to H E

From

Head at Mysore
& Bangalore.

(Person)

Sir Sheshadri Iyer K.C.S.

(Person)

Capt Vundeswamy

Prime Minister of Mysore
late Sir J. Madhaviah

Prasab

bungalow

Badrinath temple priest at
death door arrangement for
his post extremely necessary
kindly wire at once
his excellency's opinion about
it and also post

his opinion with Jagadgurur
Swami Shankaracharya's opinion with

his excellency's signature I
have tried much for

Nambur Brahmins in Cochin
and Travancore territories and
am confident none will

ever accept the post.

please don't delay unless

Recd. from

LN.

Sent to

LN.

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

At

Hrs.

Mts. by

Telegraph Master.

S. THOMAS MOUNT 19-1-97

84 Word Form.

The Priestship of the Badrinath Temple -

The worship in
this temple was re-
-established by the
great religious teacher
Sri Sankaratharya
who lived about the
8th century A.D. -
He was a Native of
the Kerala country
(which includes the
present British District
of Malabar and the
Native States of
Travancore and Cochin)
and he belonged to a
Namboori Brahmin
family of a place
called Kelati, on the

frontier between the
two Native States of
Travancore and Co-
chin. The priestship
of Bhadrinath has
since Sri Sankara-
charya's time been
continuously held by
a Brahmin of the
Namboori class -
If this has been im-
possible during the
past 1000 years, it
should be easy now,
with our improved
facilities for travel,
to find a Namboori
Brahmin for the
Priestship. If the
emoluments and con-
ditions of the office
are duly published
in the places mentioned
above, and, if need
be

Please see
Appendix C
for the information
asked for -

Travancore and Cochin
to interest themselves
in the matter - The
former which already
has the needful in-
formation on the
subject is making
inquiries and has
not yet replied - The
latter wants informa-
tion, which I beg
may be sent - Cochin
is in touch with the
most influential
Nambudi families
and is both able and
willing to help and
I would strongly re-
commend that no
decision should be
arrived at until this
State has had an
opportunity of in-
quiring and replying.
I enclose extracts from
my correspondence

with both Travancore
and Cochin (marked
B and C).

Madras } No. K. Sheshadri Iyer
21st January }
1897. }